

TITLE OF THE INVENTION  
**DISPLAYING APPARATUS WITH FLAT PANEL**

3                   **CLAIM OF PRIORITY**

4     [0001] This application makes reference to, incorporates the same herein, and claims all benefits  
5     accruing under 35 U.S.C. §119 from an application entitled *Flat Panel Display* earlier filed in the  
6     Korean Industrial Property Office on 4 January 2001, and there duly assigned Serial No. 2001-293  
7     by that Office.

8                   **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

9                   **Field of the Invention**

10    [0002] The present invention relates in general to a displaying apparatus with a flat panel, and  
11    more particularly, to a displaying apparatus with a flat panel having a ground structure of a printed  
12    circuit board (PCB) being improved.

13                   **Description of the Background Art**

14    [0003] A flat panel displaying apparatus generally includes a front cover having a central opening,  
15    a rear cover closely coupled to the front cover, and a liquid crystal display (LCD) panel provided  
16    between the front cover and the rear cover, being connected to an external system so as to display  
17    a picture.

18    [0004] A liquid crystal display panel includes a plate-shaped liquid crystal display module

1 displaying a picture outwardly, and a chassis defining an external appearance of the displaying  
2 apparatus. On the lower part of the liquid crystal display module, there is provided a lamp  
3 illuminating the liquid crystal display module. To the rear of the liquid crystal display module, there  
4 is mounted a printed circuit board driving the liquid crystal display module.

5 [0005] The printed circuit board is constructed by stacking a plurality of substrates formed with  
6 circuits in layers. In a lower edge of the printed circuit board, there is provided a connector coupled  
7 to a connection cable allowing the connector to be connected to an external system . A liquid crystal  
8 display controller is connected to the connector, so as to activate the liquid crystal display module  
according to signals inputted from the external system. In the upper edge portion of the printed  
circuit board are provided a plurality of driver integrated circuits (IC), converting the digital signals  
from the liquid crystal display controller into analog signals so as to display a picture on the liquid  
crystal display module. The driver integrated circuits are assembled to the liquid crystal display  
module. The liquid crystal display controller and the driver integrated circuits are connected  
together by a plurality of signal lines provided in the printed circuit board. The signal lines transmit  
the digital signals from the liquid crystal display controller to the respective driver integrated  
circuits.

16 [0006] Recently, there is a growing tendency to miniaturize flat panel displaying apparatus in  
17 weight and dimension. To comply with this tendency, the printed circuit board has been steadily  
18 decreasing in size. As the size of the printed circuit board becomes small in comparison to the  
19 number of the signal lines interconnecting the liquid crystal display controller and the driver  
20 integrated circuits, the ground portions of the printed circuit board are dispersed. The ground  
21

1 portions formed on the respective substrates are interconnected through holes.

2 [0007] Some of the ground portions of the printed circuit board are connected to a pair of  
3 conductor plates that are coupled to opposite sides of the chassis by screws, thereby allowing the  
4 printed circuit board to be grounded to the chassis.

5 [0008] In the earlier flat panel displaying apparatus, only some of the ground portions of the  
6 printed circuit board are coupled to the sides of the chassis, in view of the structure of the printed  
7 circuit board. However, because no ground portion is formed around the liquid crystal display  
8 controller, the place that emits electromagnetic waves the most intensely over the flat panel  
displaying apparatus, emission of the electromagnetic waves increases. As a result, the digital  
signals transferred through the signal lines between the liquid crystal display controller and the  
driver integrated circuits become unstable due to the electromagnetic waves, thereby lowering a  
reliability of the product.

9 [0009] Exemplars of the art are U.S. Patent No. 6,175,396 B1 by Kim et al., for *Liquid Crystal*  
10 *Display Module*, U.S. Patent No. 5,986,737 by Evanicky et al., for *Multi-layer Flat Panel Display*  
11 *Screen Apparatus*, U.S. Patent No. 5,796,578 by Jones, for *RF Grounding And Heat Distribution*  
12 *System for a Portable Computer Including a Slip Joint Hinge with a Banana Plug Type Male*  
13 *Intrusion Member*, U.S. Patent No. 5,138,565 by Satou, for *Shielded Electronic Apparatus Having*  
14 *a Removable Shielded Display*, Japanese Patent No. 6-37478 by Kubo et al., for *Driving Apparatus*  
15 *for Liquid Crystal*, Japanese Patent No. 9-146109 by Iwami, for *Liquid Crystal Display Device*,  
16 Japanese Patent No. 10-10565 by Yamashita, for *Liquid Crystal Display Device And Electronic*  
17 *Equipment*, Japanese Patent No. 10-74550 by Watanabe, for *Equipment with Connector And Liquid*

*Crystal Display Device*, Japanese Patent No. 10-177881 by Page Jr., for *HF Noise Screened Electric Connector Arrangement e.g. for Medical/Surgical Video Camera*, Japanese Patent No. 10-340759 by Leonard et al., for *Shielded Electrical Connector*, and Japanese Patent No. 11-284291 by Tashiro, for *Circuit Board And Liquid Crystal Display Device with the Circuit Board Mounted*.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

[0010] It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a flat panel displaying apparatus minimizing emission of the electromagnetic waves and enhancing the reliability of the product.

[0011] It is another object to properly ground the printed circuit board of a flat panel displaying apparatus to reduce electromagnetic waves.

[0012] It is yet another object to provide a display apparatus that does not have to compensate for internal electromagnetic interference.

[0013] It is still yet another object to have a display apparatus that reduces the electromagnetic wave emissions at the connection point between the display apparatus and a connection cable to an external system.

[0014] These and other objects are provided, according to the present invention, by a flat panel displaying apparatus including a liquid crystal display module displaying a picture; a chassis surrounding edges of the liquid crystal display module, defining an external appearance of the flat panel displaying apparatus; a printed circuit board provided with a connector connected to an external system by a connection cable, being grounded to the chassis; a liquid crystal display controller provided in the printed circuit board, activating the liquid crystal display module; a

1 ground portion formed around the liquid crystal display controller; and a reinforcement connection  
2 connected to the ground portion, supporting the ground of the printed circuit board.

3 [0015] The reinforcement connector is connected to the connection cable. The reinforcement  
4 connector includes a connector body formed with a housing portion housing the connection cable  
5 therein; a cover provided in the connector body, opening and closing the housing portion, to fasten  
6 the connection cable in the housing portion; and a ground contact provided in the housing portion  
7 of the connector body, being connected to the connection cable and the ground portion of the printed  
8 circuit board.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0016] A more complete appreciation of this invention, and many of the attendant advantages thereof, will be readily apparent as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which like reference symbols indicate the same or similar components, wherein:

[0017] Fig. 1 is a rear plan view of an earlier liquid crystal display panel;

[0018] Fig. 2A is a perspective view of a flat panel displaying apparatus according to one embodiment of the present invention;

[0019] Fig. 2B is a diagram of the connection between the flat panel displaying apparatus of Fig. 2A and an external system;

[0020] Fig. 3 is an exploded perspective view of Fig. 2A;

[0021] Fig. 4 is a rear plan view of a liquid crystal display panel of Fig. 3; and

1 [0022] Figs. 5A through 5C are schematic perspective views of a reinforcement connector shown  
2 in Fig. 4.

3 **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

4 [0023] Turning now to the drawings, referring to Fig. 1 which is a rear plan view of an earlier  
5 liquid crystal display panel, the liquid crystal display panel 115 includes a plate-shaped liquid crystal  
6 display module 117 displaying a picture outwardly, and a chassis 119 defining an external  
7 appearance of the displaying apparatus.

[0024] On the lower part of the liquid crystal display module 117, there is provided a lamp 121 illuminating the liquid crystal display module 117. To the rear of the liquid crystal display module 117 is mounted a printed circuit board 125 driving the liquid crystal display module 117.

[0025] The printed circuit board 125 is constructed by stacking a plurality of substrates formed with circuits in layers. In a lower edge of the printed circuit board 125, there is provided a connector 127 coupled to a connection cable 151 allowing the connector 127 to be connected to an external system. A liquid crystal display controller 129 is connected to the connector 127, so as to activate the liquid crystal display module 117 according to signals inputted from the external system. In the upper edge portion of the printed circuit board 125 are provided a plurality of driver integrated circuits (IC) 131, converting the digital signals from the liquid crystal display controller 129 into analog signals so as to display a picture on the liquid crystal display module 117. The driver integrated circuits 131 are assembled to the liquid crystal display module 117. The liquid crystal display controller 129 and the driver integrated circuits 131 are connected together by a plurality of

1 signal lines 133 provided in the printed circuit board 125, and the signal lines 133 transmit the  
2 digital signals from the liquid crystal display controller 129 to the respective driver integrated  
3 circuits 131.

4 [0026] To comply with the tendency to miniaturize flat panel displaying apparatus in weight and  
5 dimension, the printed circuit board 125 has increasingly gotten smaller in dimension. As the size  
6 of the printed circuit board 125 becomes small in comparison to the number of the signal lines 133  
7 interconnecting the liquid crystal display controller 129 and the driver integrated circuits 131, the  
8 ground portions 135 of the printed circuit board 125 are dispersed, as shown in Fig. 1. Although it  
has not been shown in Fig. 1, the ground portions 135 formed on the respective substrates are  
interconnected through holes.

9 [0027] Some of the ground portions 135 of the printed circuit board 125 are connected to a pair  
10 of conductor plates 139 coupled to opposite sides of the chassis 119 by screws 137, thereby allowing  
11 the printed circuit board 125 to be grounded to the chassis 119.

12 [0028] Herein below, a flat panel displaying apparatus having a liquid crystal display module as  
13 one embodiment of the present invention will be described in more detail, by way of example, with  
14 reference to accompanying drawings.

15 [0029] Referring to Fig. 2A which is a perspective view of a general flat panel displaying  
16 apparatus 7 according to one embodiment of the present invention and Fig. 3 which is an exploded  
17 perspective view of Fig. 2A, the flat panel displaying apparatus 7 includes a front cover 11 having  
18 a central opening, a rear cover 13 closely coupled to the front cover 11, and a liquid crystal display  
19 panel 15 provided between the front cover 11 and the rear cover 13, being connected to an external  
20

1 system 9 so as to display a picture.

2 [0030] The liquid crystal display panel 15 includes a plate-shaped liquid crystal display module  
3 17 displaying a picture outwardly, and a chassis 19 surrounding edges of the liquid crystal display  
4 module 17, to thereby define an external appearance of the displaying apparatus 7.

5 [0031] Referring now to Fig. 4, on the lower part of the liquid crystal display module 17, there  
6 is provided a lamp 21 illuminating the liquid crystal display module 17, having one end being  
7 connected to a lamp cable 23. To the rear of the liquid crystal display module 17, there is mounted  
8 a printed circuit board 25 driving the liquid crystal display module 17.

9 [0032] In a lower part of the printed circuit board 25, there is provided a connector 27 connected  
10 to a connection cable 51, thereby being connected to the external system 9 such as a computer  
11 system, a video system, or any other type of system that will send a picture signal to the liquid  
12 crystal display module 17, as seen in Figs. 2B and 4. A liquid crystal display controller 29 is  
13 connected to the connector 27, so as to activate the liquid crystal display module 17 in response to  
14 signals inputted from the external system 9. In the upper edge of the printed circuit board 25, there  
15 is provided a plurality of driver integrated circuits 31, converting the digital signals from the liquid  
16 crystal display controller 29 into analog signals so as to display a picture on the liquid crystal display  
17 module 17. The driver integrated circuits 31 are coupled to the liquid crystal display module 17.  
18 The liquid crystal display controller 29 and the driver integrated circuits 31 are connected together  
19 by a plurality of signal lines 33 provided in the printed circuit board 25, and the signal lines 33  
20 transmit the digital signals from the liquid crystal display controller 29 to the respective driver  
21 integrated circuits 31.

[0033] A plurality of ground portions 35 are formed adjacent to the signal lines 33 of the printed circuit board 25. The ground portions 35 are made of a suitable conductive material. Particularly, a controller ground portion 35a is formed around the liquid crystal display controller 29, surrounding the liquid crystal display controller 29. The controller ground portion 35a is made of a suitable conductive material. As seen in Fig. 5C, the ground portions 35 and 35a formed at respective boards are interconnected through holes 35b.

[0034] The controller ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller 29 of the printed circuit board 25 is connected to a ground contact 49 (see Fig. 5C) of a reinforcement connector 41 to be described later, then being grounded to the connection cable 51 connected to the reinforcement connector 41. The ground contact 49 is made of a suitable conductive material. Some of the other ground portions 35 are connected to a pair of conductor plates 39 screw-coupled by a screw 37 at opposite sides of the chassis 19, thereby being grounded to the chassis 19. The conductor plates 39 are made of a suitable conductive material.

[0035] The pair of reinforcement connectors 41 supporting the ground of the printed circuit board 25 are provided near opposite sides of the connector 27. As depicted in Fig. 5A, the reinforcement connector 41 includes a connector body 43 formed with a housing portion 45 housing a ground pin 63 of the connection cable 51 therein and being opened upwardly, a cover 47 provided so as to open and close the opening of the housing portion 45 of the connector body 43 and fastening the connection cable 51 in the housing portion 43, and the ground contact 49 provided at the bottom of the housing portion 45, being connected by a connection 65 to the ground pin 61 of the connector 27 and the controller ground portion 35a formed around the liquid crystal display controller 29.

[0036] The ground contact 49 of the reinforcement connector 41 is connected to one side of the controller ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller 29, *e.g.*, by soldering. The ground contact 49 of the reinforcement connector 41 is also connected to a ground pin 61 of the connector 27, allowing the connector 27 to be grounded through the controller ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller 29.

[0037] To connect the connection cable 51 to the reinforcement connector 41, the cover 47 is first moved upward so as to open the housing portion 45, through which the ground pin 63 of the connection cable 51 is inserted. The cover 47 is then moved downward so as to close the housing portion 45. As a result, the connection cable 51 is firmly housed in the housing portion 45, the connection cable 51 is engaged with the reinforcement connector 41, the ground pin 63 of the connection cable 51 within the housing portion 45 is connected to the ground contact 49 through a ground protrusion 49a of the ground contact 49, and finally the reinforcement connector 41 is connected to the controller ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller 29.

[0038] With this configuration, the ground pin 63 of the connection cable 51 and the ground pin 61 of the connector 27 are connected to the controller ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller via the ground contact 49 of the reinforcement connector 41. As described above, some of the ground portions 35 of the printed circuit board 25 are grounded to the chassis 19 by being connected to the conductor plates 39 screw-coupled by the screw 37 at the left and right sides of the chassis 19.

[0039] In view of the ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller, which emits the most intense electromagnetic waves over the flat panel displaying apparatus 7, is connected to

1 the connection cable 51, emission of the electromagnetic waves from the flat panel displaying  
2 apparatus 7 is minimized, and the digital signals from the liquid crystal display controller 29 can be  
3 transmitted to each of the driver integrated circuits 31 in a stable manner. Further, the reinforcement  
4 connector 41 connected to the ground portion 35a around the liquid crystal display controller 29 is  
5 provided, supporting the ground of the printed circuit board, to thereby strengthen the grounding  
6 effect of the flat panel displaying apparatus 7.

7 [0040] As described above, the flat panel displaying apparatus according to the present invention  
8 is capable of minimizing emission of electromagnetic waves of the printed circuit board and  
enhancing reliability of the product.

9 [0041] Although the preferred embodiment of the present invention has been disclosed for  
10 illustrative purposes, those skilled in the art will appreciate that various modifications, additions and  
11 substitutions are possible, without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention as disclosed  
in the accompanying claims.